



# THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED TRI-MONTHLY

for the mail packets of the 5th, 15th and 24th of the month.

A. J. LAMOURIN, Editor and Proprietor.

Contains a summary of news and a review of Brazilian affairs, list of the arrivals and partures of foreign vessels, the commercial report and price current of the market, tables of stock quotations and sales, a table of freights and charters, a summary of the daily office reports from the Associação Commercial, and all other information necessary to a correct judgment on Brazilian trade.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, NOVEMBER 24th, 1888.

AFTER a continuous session of over six months (May 3rd to November 20th), including several prorogations, the General Assembly for the current year has closed up and gone home. Notwithstanding the important questions awaiting solution, very little has been accomplished. The famous abolition act of May 13th is a noteworthy exception to the usual sterility of these legislative sessions, but it was as great a surprise to the Chambers as to the country at large. Noble and praiseworthy as it is, it must be considered a work of destruction, the removal of an obstacle, the settlement of a great wrong. It abolished a vicious and unjust system of labor and forced the country into the adoption of another. This act should have been followed by constructive legislation of the most liberal character in order to assist the transformation of labor and mitigate the hardships attendant upon so radical a change. Nothing of the kind, however, has been done. The reactionists seized the first opportunity to dominate the Senate and place the ministry and its supporters upon the defensive, and this has been the attitude of public affairs during the greater part of the session. The "banks of emission" project introduced last session, distantly modeled after the American national system, passed the Senate August 14th and was voted blindly by the Chamber just before adjournment.\* It may be considered a step in advance, but the system is so crippled by ignorant conditions that few good results are likely to spring from it. Experience, however, will probably suggest the necessary changes. The liberal "freedom of worship" bill passed by the Senate this session, was effectually blocked in the Chamber by church intrigue and a petition signed by 14,000 women. The regular budgets were eventually passed by means of prorogued sessions. The most important of these is the budget of the department of agriculture, commerce and public works, which, following the mad policy of the Argentines, appropriates large sums for railways, subsidies, public improvements and immigration. Much of the money voted is absolutely unnecessary, and the appropriations are based on the erroneous policy that public enterprises can only be carried out through government assistance. A highly pernicious amendment was attached at the last moment permitting importers of Chinese coolies to receive the assistance now granted to European immigration. Another pernicious amendment was also attached, tying the hands of the minister in the renewal of

tramway concessions and making the extension of these a matter of bribery and jobbery. The "burgos agricolas" project adopted is a visionary scheme and will probably die of inanition. Beyond these measures, much of which will be positively hurtful, the session has been worse than fruitless, for it has helped to disorganize labor, unsettle the confidence arising after the adoption of the law of abolition, and demoralize the public by unseemly quarrels and useless rhetoric. The tariff questions we shall discuss hereafter.

THE local papers of the 21st announced the decision of the government to send a special agent to England to confer with the "Recife and S. Francisco" and "Bahia and S. Francisco" companies for the transfer of those two railways to the state. It was also announced that this highly important mission had been entrusted to Dr. J. C. Rodrigues, formerly editor and proprietor of *O Novo Mundo*, and recently the negotiator of an important foreign loan for the province of São Paulo, the first of its kind in Brazil. The intentions of the government with respect to these two railways is already known, for they have been the subject of general proposals in annual *relatórios*, and of discussions in parliament. The general purpose is to reduce the heavy charges which these roads entail upon the treasury—a purpose which no one can reasonably criticize. Whether the proposition comes at the right time, or not, is certainly an open question, for the two roads are now near enough the profit line to render their guarantees purely nominal. The burdens imposed by these ill-advised enterprises have already been met and shouldered by the treasury, and if agriculture could only be stimulated in those districts they ought soon to begin paying back the money advanced. If the state had only taken over these lines years ago and could have secured a reasonably economical administration of them, it would have been a great gain for the national treasury. Even now, their acquisition by the state may be advantageous, for their extensions are built and administered by the state and their acquisition would tend to simplify administration and enable the treasury to make use of the profits now earned by the lines. It will require a very careful and economical administration to enable the state to derive benefit from the proposed acquisition, but as to this no minister was ever known to hesitate. In the selection of an agent, the government has been most fortunate. Dr. Rodrigues is unusually well equipped for a negotiation like this, because of his long residence among Englishmen, his familiarity with their laws, customs and business habits, and his rare faculty of making himself master of the subject in hand. In a negotiation so complicated and delicate, something more than a mere official is required; and it is creditable to the government that this fact has been recognized at the very outset. The purpose is to effect an arrangement satisfactory and just to both sides, and we are confident that Dr. Rodrigues will get nearer to that essential point than any other man the government could have selected.

THE controversy which has arisen in São Paulo over the termination of the contract with the São Paulo Gas Co. (English) has come at a very critical time, for it will certainly serve to unsettle reviving confidence in Brazilian investments and check the stream of English gold now flowing into the country. The claim that the contract expires next month is apparently the result of an intrigue on the part of sundry speculators to get possession of the service, as will be seen when the new proposals are in. A liberal interpretation of

the contract and decrees of extension certainly warrants the claims of the company, and even were there any doubt of this it should be interpreted in the company's favor for upon this interpretation its capital was raised. The original contract was signed 26th December, 1863, and fixed a term of 25 years for the concession. The concessionaires, however, were unable to sell the privilege or organize a company, and in August, 1866, just before the concession expired, an extension of two years was obtained. In 1869, or after the expiration of the said two years, the owners of the concession opened negotiations in London with the promoters of the present company, who agreed to buy the said concession (then really worthless) and organize a company, providing an extension of time were granted and certain modifications were made in the contract. Accordingly an "addenda" to the original contract was signed 10th July, 1869, extending the time by two years. Another extension for beginning work was signed in 1879, concurrent with an extension of the kerosene illumination contract for nine months, at the end of which, as expressly stated, the gas illumination contract should begin. This, the company has always considered, is the date at which its 25 years' contract should begin. Even if this were a misapprehension, certainly the government can not go back of the date on which the old contract, already lapsed, was renewed, which was 10th July, 1869. The first years of the company's existence were of course full of difficulties and no profits were earned. Its shareholders had risked their capital at a time when the city was small, poor and comparatively unknown to the outside world, and they strove to fulfill all their obligations in the hope of ultimate profits. Now that the city has become rich and prosperous and they are realizing their once almost hopeless expectations, the people who have derived benefit from their capital and faith are seeking to rob them of six to seven years' profit in the investment. No one certainly can justly hold them responsible for the six years lost in fruitlessly seeking capital for the enterprise; on the contrary, the people of São Paulo ought to gladly admit this most reasonable of claims, which is confirmed by several prominent Brazilian lawyers, and to spare no effort to settle all these early contracts in a manner that will leave no complaint of broken obligations, bad faith and ingratitude behind.

THE Chinese amendment to the budget of the minister of agriculture having become law, it now remains to be seen whether the reactionists of Bahia, Minas Geraes and Rio de Janeiro will have the courage of their declared convictions. The introduction of Chinese labor into Brazil at this time will be a step of exceptional importance and gravity, and its consequences will be felt for generations and will go far to determine the future of this empire. For the brief moment it may afford relief to those planters who can not adapt themselves to the requirements of free labor, but, as in the case of slavery, their gain will inevitably be the nation's loss. Aside from the creation of a new form of slavery, which we have already discussed, and aside from the no less important question of amalgamation and consequent degradation of the white race, which we have also discussed, there are other points worthy of consideration before it is too late. In the first place, white immigration will inevitably be checked by coolie competition. There is probably no race in the world which can successfully compete with the Chinese, where the latter are not placed under restrictions. They are patient, industrious, saving, persevering and are accustomed to live on the minimum of food. They

are crafty and implacable in a way, and invariably crowd all competitors out of any occupation they may take a fancy to. Give them a fair chance, and they will inevitably drive white and black laborers out of all the small industries and trades in the country. To prevent this, their liberty must be restricted—and that means slavery. In the second place, we are firmly convinced that the introduction of Chinese labor will serve to hasten the disruption of the empire. Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catharina and Paraná, where the German element is so large and the Italian element is rapidly increasing, will not be inclined to favor the introduction of Chinese. Those provinces are slowly changing to a state of society favorable only to small holdings and free voluntary labor. If they had free access to better markets, the system of small cultivation in those provinces would develop with great rapidity and they would very soon be rich and prosperous. It is highly improbable that the European colonists now settled in those provinces, and the large cattle-raisers who have no use for Chinese labor, will permit the introduction of a semi-servile laboring element; and it is also improbable that they will relish an association with provinces importing and using so objectionable a class of laborers. São Paulo, also, will probably decline to take so retrograde a step, though a few planters may wish to give it a trial. The probabilities are, therefore, that the introduction of Chinese labor will serve to alienate the southern provinces, possibly including São Paulo, and will at no distant day lead to their political separation from the servile-labor provinces of the centre. Whether the Amazonian provinces will take to the new slave element is not yet clear, but the probabilities are that they will not. It may occur, therefore, that Bahia, Minas Geraes and Rio de Janeiro will not only be left to bear the incubus and disgrace of the introduction of a new servile element, with all its demoralizing and reactionary consequences, but will also destroy the political union now binding the provinces together. There are certainly risks enough in the venture to make a wise man hesitate.

## THE BUDGET.

The following is an abstract of the budget as finally passed by the Chamber of Deputies on the 15th inst. The general expenditure of the Empire for the fiscal year 1889 is fixed in the sum of 153,148,442\$297, distributed among the various departments as follows:

|                           |                 |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Department of Empire..... | 9,228,321\$097  |
| do Justice.....           | 7,680,612\$823  |
| do For. Affairs.....      | 771,706\$666    |
| do Marine.....            | 11,313,619\$125 |
| do War.....               | 15,031,706\$173 |
| do Agriculture.....       | 40,929,070\$686 |
| do Finance.....           | 62,193,399\$727 |

153,148,442\$297  
The estimates made by the cabinet when the legislature assembled were:

|                           |                 |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Department of Empire..... | 8,928,675\$497  |
| do Justice.....           | 7,133,542\$808  |
| do For. Affairs.....      | 775,306\$666    |
| do Marine.....            | 11,257,970\$125 |
| do War.....               | 14,578,772\$173 |
| do Agriculture.....       | 36,686,183\$201 |
| do Finance.....           | 58,748,220\$301 |

138,108,670\$831  
or 15,000,000\$ more have been voted than was estimated, a curious result where economy is the text of statesmen of both parties. Of this, however, 10,000,000\$ belong to the appropriation for immigration.

To the above sum of..... 153,148,442\$297 are to be added

|              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Table A..... | 327,336\$014    |
| do B.....    |                 |
| do C.....    | 19,939,629\$813 |

Total..... 173,415,408\$124  
The revenue is estimated at..... 147,200,000\$000

Which leaves an apparent deficit of 26,215,408\$124  
In the budget of the department of agriculture the following authorizations are included, which are to further increase the estimates: The government is authorized to guarantee up to 6 per cent. interest for a maximum period of 30 years and on a maximum cost of 30,000\$ per kilometre to the following railways: Aracajú to Simão Dias, with a branch to Capela, in the province of Sergipe; Ribeirão to Villa do Bonito, Pernambuco; Moinhos to Alagoa Grande, and from Pilar to Itatama, Parahyba do Norte; a branch from the Minas and Rio railway

\* The text of the project as it passed the Senate, which was not changed in the Chamber, was published in our issue of August 15th.

to the Cazamê springs, and another to the Lumbary and Caminhôta springs, to terminate at the town of Campanha; a branch from the Alagôas railway to the town of Assembla; a branch from Campo Grande, or other suitable place, to Bom Jardim, province of Pernambuco; a branch of the Bahia Central railway to the Orubô lands, and an extension southwards according to the most suitable plans; a branch at the Rio de Nôva Cruz railway to Ceará-mirim, or a line from Natal to this place; a branch to connect the town of Natal, daré, through the Jacuhyne valley, to a suitable point on the Recife and S. Francisco railway; an extension of the Surochana railway from Botucatu to the banks of the Paranapanema, below its junction with the Tilingy; an extension of the Paraná railway to the towns of Amannas and Rio Negro, where considered suitable, and a branch from Morretes to Antonina; from Casias in Catequês, in the province of Maranhão; an extension of the Baía de Ararua railway through the Macaê valley to a junction with the Leopoldina line, province of Rio de Janeiro; an extension of the Macaê and Campos railway to the Serra do Prale, Rio de Janeiro; an extension of the Nazareth tram road from the town of Santo Antonio de Jesus to Amargosa, province of Bahia; a branch from the Alagôas railway to pass through the Merim, Jettulin, Santo Antonio Grande, Camaragô, Mangualha and Jacuhyne valleys and to terminate at the late colony Leopoldina; a railway to connect Pelotas to the colonies of S. Lútrero and neighboring districts, province of Rio Grande do Sul; an extension of the Bahia and Minas railway from Philadelphina to S. João Baptista de Minas Novas, in the province of Minas Geraes, and thence to a suitable point on the S. Francisco river; the extension of the railway from Taubaté to Ubatuba, an extension from Ubatuba to Iguaçu, and of the Surochana line from Taubaté, passing by Itapetininga, to the localities of Paraná, all in the province of S. Paulo; in the Santa Luzia to Benevente railway for including a section from Santa Luzia to Cachoeira, and from Cachoeira to Benevente, or Victorina, as most suitable, province of Espírito Santo; an extension of the Campos and Carangola railway to Alegrete, or to a suitable point on the Santa Luzia and Cachoeira line.

To contract for the extension of the Minas and Rio railway to a navigable point on the Rio Verde, for which purpose, in accordance with the proposal of the company, 3 per cent. may be guaranteed for 10 years and 5 per cent. during construction, on a maximum capital of 30,000\$ per kilometre.

To contract with the Alguazil railway the extension of the Popas de Cabas line to the town of this name.

To order the necessary surveys for the construction of a branch to unite the towns of Victoria and Gloria do Guiti in Pernambuco; of a branch from the Alagôas railway from a suitable point in the late military colony of Leopoldina, through the valleys of Merim, Santo Antonio Grande, Jettulin, Camaragô and Jacuhyne (as authority to grant a guarantee in this line is mentioned above, it is peculiar that here on only surveys should be granted).—Eds. Acçô, an extension of the Carmin railway in Pernambuco; an extension of the Conde d'Eu railway, in the province of Parahyba, from Ingá to Campina Grande, and from Independência to Bananeiras, and from this town to Nova Cruz in Rio Grande do Norte, for the connection of these two towns, in accordance with the report of the department of agriculture last year; and the extension of the Ouro Preto branch (the D. Pedro II line) to Indaiá; upon this last extension 130,000\$ may be spent.

To order the necessary surveys for a junction of the Nafat and Nova Cruz, in the province of Rio Grande do Norte, Conde d'Eu in Parahyba, Linoim and Recife and S. Francisco, in Pernambuco, and Imperatriz in Alagoas in such manner that communication by rail may be established between these provinces.

To order surveys for the determination of the best route for the extension of the Surochana railway from the boundaries of the province of Paraná to a junction with the Cacequi and Taguary railway in Rio Grande do Sul.

To contract with the most favorable bidder the navigation of the lower S. Francisco, in which service it to be included lounge over the bar, and the subsidy should not exceed 50,000\$.

To have surveys made on the bar of the Parahyba river at S. João da Barra, the dangers being for that purpose freely entered and cleared.

To contract for the navigation of the Jacuhyne and Paria rivers, province of Bahia, the subsidy to be 30,000\$.

To grant 20 years privilege to the company navigating by steam the Yellias and S. Francisco rivers, without increase of subsidy.

To contract with Baía de Jacuhyne the service of a steam navigation company between Brazil and Europe, except so far as regards the subsidy during the provisional service. Should the enterprise be organized within the next fiscal year the government may grant a subsidy of 25,000\$ per voyage, up to a sum of 300,000\$ per annum.

The government is authorized to improve the Rio Grande do Sul bar, at the cost of the people, if no individuals care to bid for the work, and credit operations are permitted for this purpose.

Each province of the empire is to receive 300,000 hectares of public lands, which are to be used in colonization and settlement in lots, previously surveyed and marked, according to the systems adopted by the various provincial assemblies. These lots, however, may not be located on navigable rivers, on railways belonging to the State, nor on those guaranteed by it; such lands may be granted freely by the government to the companies, or railways, for the establishment of colonies.

The government will issue the necessary regulations.

For the construction of branches destined to connect the Bahia Central railway and that of the S. Francisco at the most convenient point, and these roads to that of Santo Amaro; the branches may be contracted for, with an interest guarantee not to exceed 6 per cent. on 30,000\$ per kilometre.

To grant 5 per cent. on a maximum cost of 20,000\$ per kilometre for a railway of from 60 to 65 kilometres, and .75 metre gauge, from the

town of Nossa Senhora da Conceição do Rio Bonito, near by, to extend to Cape Frio, province of Rio de Janeiro.

Then come the amendments to the budgets of the department of finance:

The government may issue 16,000,000\$ in Treasury bills in anticipation of revenue. All deposits may be used, but must be returned upon application.

That part of the revenue destined to the service of emigration may be employed in immigration, or native colonization.

To maintain or improve the importation of goods that are unmanufactured in the country, or of which manufactures exist, using native grown raw material, a sliding scale of tariff, comprising the advance of exchange from 22½d per mil reis; and also to increase the duties on manufactures of cotton and jute, and the produce of native factories may not suffer from their competition.

To revise the customs tariffs in relation to goods imported from the United States to meet the treaty that may possibly be negotiated with that country for the obtaining of at least reciprocal advantages for national produce imported there.

To revise the regulations of February, 1888, relating to taxes on professions and trades.

To revise the duties on minerals, whether chemical or natural.

To allow free entry to animals imported for breeding purposes, and such as are destined to the Zoological Gardens.

To turn over in any company that proposes to complete the Baiana railway a debt of 16,000\$ owing the state by the bankrupt company.

To order the sanitary improvements in the city of Rio de Janeiro, as regards the Rodrigo de Freitas lake, in accordance with the plans and estimates of Engineer J. J. Kévy, and which have already been presented to the legislature, by means of a company, or an undertaking to be organized for this purpose, to which might be conceded certain favors, viz.: free usufruct for 90 years of government land, which is comprised within the said plans, and of such as may be acquired by filling in, or excavating, after complete levelling, excepting such as are reserved for the public benefit; free entry for material and tools necessary to the execution of these plans; privilege for the construction, use and possession of an elevated railway between the city and the new suburb of the lake of Rodrigo de Freitas in accordance with the said plans.

To revise the customs tariffs to give the customs houses of Rio Grande do Sul a special complete tariff, satisfying in far as most suitable to the interests of the state the reclamations presented to the government by the Exchanges of the province to reduce or suppress, if necessary, the equal duties on produce similar to that of the neighboring republics who may be free in the said countries; and to take, alone, or in combination with neighboring states, all the necessary steps to avoid loss to the public revenue in the dispatching and transit of merchandise of whatsoever origin and destination, not only on the southern frontiers by land, but especially on the Uruguay river and its tributaries, on the Itaipu and Quarabim railways, Anga Miliu and its tributary streams, regarding as far as possible the greatest advantages and the free traffic on these cities of international communication.

To guarantee the loan to be contracted by the Commercial Association of Rio de Janeiro for the consolidation of its debt and completion of the exchange, sinking fund and interest (the latter not to exceed 10 per cent. and the fee to supply the amount necessary for the repayment of the loan in 30 years), upon the hypothecation of the state of the building, to be held as security for the entire repayment of any sums which may be advanced.

Law No. 3,263 of July 18th, 1888 which applies the interest on amounts loaned the banks by the Treasury to the redemption of currency, is repealed, and San Art. 5 of Law No. 3,348 of October 20th, 1887.

All debts to the Treasury arising from slave owning are declared extinguished, and those of such description as were collected in 1888 will be refunded.

As with special application to such aid institutions as are not in charge of religious bodies or of private individuals a tax of 30\$ is imposed on each tramcar of the Jarim Botafum and S. Christóvão companies and 15\$ on all others; 500\$ per item upon races of horse or mule, held in the neutral municipality by clubs, companies, associations or enterprises, and 30 per cent. on certain municipal taxes.

The municipal chamber of Rio de Janeiro is authorized to contract a loan for not over 500,000\$ at 4 per cent. interest and 1 per cent. sinking fund, the conditions of the contract to be submitted to the government which will facilitate the application of the funds to the purposes as solicited by the Chamber.

General, provincial and municipal taxes legally demanded will be considered as working expenses of railways enjoying a guarantee by the state.

The number of natives is granted a credit of 1,000,000\$ to increase the naval force [ships].

Various favors are granted an enterprise to establish on a large scale the production of silk; such as free machinery, free importation for 10 years; raw silk and dyes, to the extent of 20,000 kilograms of silk for the first five years and of 10,000 for the latter; relief from house tax for 10 years. The obligations of the enterprise are to furnish, under conditions, larvae with mulberry cuttings and silk worms; to establish reeling machines in central positions, observatories for experts in the industry, and for the propagation of the worms; to immediately establish in Rio de Janeiro a silk spinning and weaving factory to use 20,000 kilograms of raw silk per annum and to establish a theoretical and practical school for teaching the cultivation of the mulberry and the rearing of silk worms.

Conditions are established for the condemning of water courses where these are necessary for the supply of towns.

The government is authorized, at the termination of the contracts of the several tram companies of this city and its suburbs, to renew the concessions to the same, or other enterprises on the following conditions: one year prior to the expiration of each concession there will be opened a public competition for the renewal, which will be for 50 years at

least; the bids will be based upon a table to be organized by the government showing the rates of passage, etc., and such other conditions as appear proper; among the conditions must be the repairing of the streets served by the trams, the payment of a sum to be deposited in the Treasury, or a percentage of net profits to be verified annually, and the reversion to the municipal chamber of all the material of the enterprise at the termination of the concession; the competition will be relative to the amount to be contributed, and only policemen and letter carriers will be transported gratis. The amount thus collected is to be employed in sanitary improvements.

The government is authorized to convert the foreign and domestic funded debt in all, on in part, at a lower rate of interest.

## LEGISLATIVE NOTES.

November 12.—In the Senate, Sr. Tannay was somewhat bitter upon the passing of the change in the estimates which permits the introduction of colonies, and presented the project of a law to modify labor contracts. Senator Camilla de Oliveira objected to the projected prohibition of cutting the wages as an interference with the rights of property. Senator Belarino was obliged once more to raise his voice to protect against various clauses in the estimates. In referring to savings banks he stated he knew of no country where these did not enjoy a government guarantee; the senator has, apparently, never heard of a neighboring republic where these banks not only do not enjoy a guarantee, but are rigorously fiscalized by the authorities. He then objected to the sliding scale of import duties, for a similar favor should be given exporters also, and saw danger in the proposed commercial treaty with the United States, which by reducing duties on imports from that country might cause a serious decrease in revenue; moreover, the most important article of American produce, wheat, (sic) is already moderately taxed in Brazil. Why choose the United States alone? Other countries, levy high duties on Brazilian produce, and treaties might be made with them also, and if they chose to make treaties on similar basis what is to become of our revenue? The speaker then proceeded to object to nearly all the amendments to the revenue estimates and occupied himself for some time. In the Chamber, Deputy Luiz and Balbino Carvalho proposed the adjournment of the debate on the banks of issue project for 48 hours; that the premier might be present at the discussion; both of these deputies oppose the project, but their motion was carried over.

November 14.—In the Senate Sr. Silveira Martins replied to remarks made by Senator Belarino regarding the Rio Grande do Sul tariff, and claimed for this province exceptional legislation. The rest of the session was of no general interest. In the Chamber the estimates of the general expenses of the empire as amended by the Senate finally passed. The bill for the reorganization of the naval school was carried over for want of a quorum.

November 15.—There was no quorum in the Senate. In the Chamber two priests occupied most attention; the first presenting a protest from some 4,000 of the faithful against Senator Silveira Martins' freedom of religion project, and the latter explaining in very unmistakable terms what he (thinks of the Senate. Deputy Souza spoke on various subjects; the deputy was elected late in the session and must make up for time lost. Deputy Nairu made a farewell, but unnecessarily long speech in objecting to Chinese immigration; Brazil does not require so much a large number of bags of coffee, but to improve the moral level of its population. Deputy Lourenço de Albuquerque objected to some shurs cast by the preceding speaker in the treaty with China (which was inaugurated under the auspices of his father-in-law, Senator Simão) and then proceeded to pick coat-wise fragments in pieces; maize, it appears, is sent from Alagoas to Liverpool, when Rio imports the same article from the River Plate, whence the deputy said he imported 22,092 bags in two years (this quantity has come in here in the month of the current year). After Deputy Cadillo Rodrigues and Pedro Luiz had formulated their last protests against the budgets, these were all passed as amended in the Senate. Committees were appointed to present various bills for imperial sanction and to request that a day be marked for closing the session.

November 16.—No session in either house.

November 17.—No session in either house.

November 19.—No session in Senate or Chamber.

November 20.—At 1 p. m. His Majesty the Emperor closed the legislative session by the following speech from the Throne:

Angust and most worthy gentlemen, representatives of the nation:

My content in appearing in this chamber is today the more intense because of my fortune in being enabled to return to the country, and to continue to serve it.

My birth, the glorious foils of my Angust Father, the tenderness with which I was treated and educated in childhood and orphanage, finally the constant affection of Brazilians making me to the country, the manifestations on the 22nd Angust strongly affected me.

If the consecrations dedication in the performance of my duties needed a new stimulus I should have found it in that cordial reception by all and in all of Brazil.

Never will I forget the sympathetic cordiality of these European ladies, where I sought the re-establishment of my health.

At the same time that I was gladdened by the sight of the satisfactory condition of the empire, for the third time delivered to the regency of my much loved daughter, the Princess Imperial, I am deeply recovered the news of the death in Vienna of my grandson, Prince D. José, whom God called to Himself an Angust ray.

The relations of the empire with foreign nations continue unchanged. Our procedure, always just, must lead to the preservation of this.

Order and public tranquillity have been maintained, the guarantees of individual liberty respected. I praise and acknowledge the authority conceded the government for the improvement of safety in the capital of the empire, through an increase and reorganization of the public force.

We may flatter ourselves upon the pacific manner in which the transformation of labor was secured in virtue of the Law of May 13th, the decreasing of which on conserved me in my homesickness (saudades), alleviating my physical sufferings. Brazil in this act furnished new testimony of its fitness for every moral advance.

The public revenue increases and promises further development; commerce extends its transactions; projects for enterprises destined to profit by the various branches of industry are multiplying; and, notwithstanding foreseen but inevitable local difficulties, employment for natives and foreigners increases.

Let us have faith that the energy of our fellow-citizens, disposing of so many and so great resources, will bring us ample compensation for present sacrifices.

The government, on its part, using the authority and means you have voted, will hasten the settlement of our lands, will promote facility of transportation and will devote solicited attention to other needs of agriculture.

Among the measures decreed by you, special reference is due to the law of banks of emission, destined in its purposes to restrict the circulation of government paper money, and to furnish to industrial activity a proportional elasticity.

I trust that in the following session you will occupy yourselves with the projects, already presented, relating to credit banks, judiciary reform, and the suppression of vagabundage; as well as that you will adopt the improvements requisite for the better practical development of local institutions.

General and professional public instruction, in accordance with present circumstances, demand measures upon which our progress much depends. I trust you will continue to lend to this matter the attention which agricultural instruction and the reform of the Nôva Academy merited of you.

Public health and, principally, sanitary measures for the capital of the empire are recommended to your care. Although the sanitary condition of the interior continues excellent and that of the coast is favorably modified, it is necessary to persevere in the task of extinguishing such causes of disease as hygiene may be able to effect.

Angust and most worthy gentlemen, representatives of the nation:

To your patriotism in the labors of this session, there will, as I hope, correspond during the legislative recess your beneficent influence, to the end that the powerful elements of prosperity granted by God may yet further bear fruit.

The session is closed.

## PROVINCIAL NOTES

—During the eight days ending on the 19th inst. it rained continuously in São Paulo, the rain gauge registering a fall of 120mm. The rains were very general throughout the province.

—The contract for the construction of the Campanias water works was formally signed on the 17th inst. The accumulating reservoir is to be at "Ponte Preta," 18 kilometres distant from the city.

—The government has recently purchased a plantation near Mogi das Cruzes, São Paulo, belonging to the Carnelides, for the sum of 10,000\$ in apices, the land to be used for purposes of colonization.

—A second law student at São Paulo refusing to take the customary oath, for political and religious reasons, the faculty has refused to issue his diploma. It was felt, apparently, that further concession would be dangerous.

—A quarrel between two servants of the Emperor at Petropolis on the 16th resulted in the stabbing of one of them. The crime was committed in the imperial stables, and the wounded man is considered to be gravely injured.

—We are now hearing that the recent rains have caused great prejudice to agriculture—and it is to be presumed that another 30 % has gone where the woollyne twined. A couple of weeks ago the sun and shower were playing the same kind of game with the poor planter.

—The detailed October returns of the Santos custom house show a total revenue of 1,341,029\$, 296, of which \$25,775\$768 were from imports and 466,080\$048 from exports. The *meta do rodado* returns were 312,645\$493, of which 293,528\$691 were derived from the provincial export tax in coffee.

—The São Paulo clerks are now trying to enforce Sunday closing by stuning the shops kept open. These tight-headed young men should remember that conduct of this character will soon defeat the good will now shown them. They have already won a very important victory, and it should not be marred by any excesses of this character.

—It has been discovered that Col. Aguiar, the S. Paulo planter who mysteriously disappeared on the 12th or 13th ult., left São Paulo on the latter date on a S. Paulo and Rio train, and it is probable that he came to Rio de Janeiro. It is now discovered that these are preliminary reasons for his disappearance.

—The São Paulo "preps" went to the *Divão Mercantil* in a body on the 22nd and demanded satisfaction. The editor-in-chief declined all intention of insulting their excellencies, whereupon they administered a beating to one of his employee's and then went away. Some one ought to use a single on these boys.

—The president of the province of Amazonas has created profound consternation among his people by suspending the examinations in arithmetic and dismissing the inspector of military works and his orderly, who were examiners. It is to be feared that these inconsiderate officials have been trying the "when-and-a-half and egg-and-a-half" problem on him.

—Among the passengers for the United States on the American steamer *Finance* was Mr. Charles R. McCall, United States consul at Santos, who goes home on a leave of absence. The Santos consulate will be administered during Mr. McCall's absence by Mr. Henry E. Brown, vice-consul, who has on several occasions rendered highly satisfactory service as acting consul.

—The São Paulo police arrested four members of a large gang of boy thieves, on the 16th inst. These young vagabonds have been stealing from various shops for some time, depositing their spoils with certain individuals to sell to a few shopkeepers who are willing to pay a fraction of their value and ask no questions. The oldest of the gang is 14 and the youngest 10 years of age.

—Among the 1145 Italian immigrants on the steamer *S. Jager*, which arrived at Santos on the 16th, was a very pretty girl, destined for plantation work with her relatives. The captain of the steamer, however, fell in love with her, and easily won her consent to marry him. So, when the immigrants went ashore at Santos, the captain went along with them and in a very short time the twin were made one.

—The conduct of the law faculty and other finite beings not pleasing the "preps" at Pernambuco recently, they proceeded to kick up a row and succeeded. The imperial government even was thrown into alarm. The "preps" paraded, hoisted the faculty, insulted the police, broke up the fire company sent to reduce them with H2O, and brought the examinations to an abrupt termination. The faculty, however, intends to hold out as long as supplies last, but the young academic republicans will eventually carry their point, whatever it is, and then we shall have peace.

—By a provincial law, No. 1,927, of the 15th inst., the president of Pernambuco is authorized to contract a loan at 92, to produce 8,600,000\$, and to bear interest at a rate not exceeding 5 per cent. and amortization not exceeding 10 per cent. The proceeds of the loan are to liquidate the deficits of the last two years and convert the 7% debt of the province. If the loan is not placed abroad, the president is further authorized to contract an internal loan of 1,100,000\$ at 6 per cent to liquidate the above mentioned deficits. The loan will probably not be placed on the terms mentioned.

—The *Correio Official* of Goyaz, of the 1st ult., announces the arrival there of a party of engineers employed by the Pará Transportation and Trading Co., in the small steam launch *Adôlfo*, which had successfully ascended the rapids of the lower Tocantins and Araguaia with but slight damage and at a low stage of the river. They report extensive forests between Santo Anastácio and Santa Maria, and fine grazing lands between the latter place and Leopoldina. Two engineers are now at work surveying the railway between S. Anastácio and Almoagor.

—The chief of police of the province of Rio de Janeiro issued a circular on the 10th inst. instructing his subordinates that the "forced recruiting" for the army ordered by him in a "private matter" of September 17th, by virtue of "an order also private" from the minister of war of September 12th, should be interpreted to refer only to the impressment of individuals who are Brazilian citizens, from 18 to 35 years of age, and who are not specifically exempted by law and are not employed in business, agriculture or any mechanical industry. The individuals to be specially favored by the "press gang" are those who have no occupation and are given over to "vagabondage and criminal idleness."

—A controversy has arisen in São Paulo over an interpretation of the contract between the government and São Paulo Gas Co., as to the date on which said contract expires. The provincial government says it expires December 26th proximo, while the company believes that it was extended by certain dispatches conceding more time for the completion of the works. The president of the province has called for proposals for the service, and has called upon the company for provisional tenders for the service until the new contract has been definitely arranged, against which the manager in São Paulo has formally protested. The following extract from the official reply will be interesting to intending bidders and investors: "Under these conditions, it would seem more suitable, even in the interests of the company which you represent, that, in place of formulating protests which neither give nor acquire rights, it should accept the co-operation which is offered to it for a service which the administration is obliged to consider and execute, whether the company wishes to do so or not." Looks a little like "bulldozing" the stranger, surely!

## RAILROAD NOTES

—The September receipts of the Paraná railway amounted to 58,399\$040.

—The October receipts of the Macaeté and Campos railways were 220,024\$720. The expenditures are kept a profound secret.

—The provincial assembly of Rio de Janeiro has authorized extensions of the Macaeté and Campos and the Barão de Araruama railways.

—On the 9th inst. the minister of agriculture authorized the provisional inauguration of traffic on the Offhos de Agna branch of the Bahia Central railway.

—The September receipts of the Paulista line amounted to 380,087\$830, and the expenditures to 111,453\$050, leaving a net surplus of 268,634\$780. This raises the total surplus for the quarter to 591,619\$990.

—The Príncipe de Grão Pará section of the Northern and Rio de Janeiro railway is slated to have received 263,403\$380 for the four months—July to Oct.—and expenses were 139,289\$701, leaving a balance of 124,113\$679.

—The September receipts of the S. Carlos do Pinhal line amounted to 98,296\$920 and the expenditures to 39,751\$060, leaving a net balance of 67,545\$860. The total surplus for the quarter ending September 30th was 149,474\$840.

—An epizootic disease has broken out among the mules owned by the train companies of this city and Niteroi and is seriously interfering with their work. About half of the animals are suffering from the disease, which happily has been fatal in only a very few cases.

—The gross receipts of the Dom Pedro II railway for the 9 months ending September 30th last were 8,832,928\$695, against 7,597,749\$045 in the same period of last year, an increase of 1,235,179\$650. Last year's small coffee crop partly accounts for the increase.

—On the 15th inst. the proposals for the construction of the Bagé and Uruguaiana, Rio Grande do Sul, railway were opened at the department of agriculture. The proposals numbered 17, and there are others put in at the sixth, and possibly abroad, so that the decision of the government is not likely to be immediate.

—A notable proof of what we were the first to preach is that, notwithstanding reduced tariffs, the Recife and S. Francisco railway for the first time earned during the first half of the current year a sum sufficient to avoid calling upon the government for any payment on account of interest guarantee.

—The action of the government in granting railways all over the empire has affected the municipal chamber of the capital. One of the councilmen wants the municipality to grant a 6 per cent. guarantee to a railway which is to serve the suburbs. The amount is moderate (60,000\$ per annum) and as the municipality rolls in wealth the expenditure will not ruin tax-payers.

—A River Plate paper has discovered that the early railways built in England and the United States enjoyed government protection. The protection to those in the former is probably the enormous parliamentary expenses for obtaining a charter; in the latter government protection was utterly unknown until the transcontinental lines became necessary, many years after a considerable part of the American republic was served by a gum railway system.

—According to the annual report of the Macaeté and Campos companies the total receipts of that line (coasting steamers, railways and river navigation from Campos in S. Fidélis) for the year ending 30th June last were 1,388,186\$395, and the expenditures 812,978\$731, leaving a net surplus of 575,207\$664. Compared with the preceding year, the receipts showed an increase of 14,687\$750 and the expenditures 24,993\$188. The number of passengers carried during the year was 63,802 and the quantity of coffee 14,307½ tons and of sugar 13,115 tons.

## RIVER PLATE ITEMS.

—Be careful not to send money in letters to Buenos Aires. Robberies in the postoffice there are reported.

—The shareholders of the "Bolsa" at Montevideo are discussing the dissolution and liquidation of the association.

—The "English Bank of the River Plate" has instituted an action against the "English Bank of Rio de Janeiro" for alleged infringement of title. The banks are respectively represented by Dr. Arelanito Rubeiz de Lencina and Dr. José Pedro Ramirez. *Montevideo Express*, November 15.

—Ex-Governor D'Amico, of the province of Buenos Aires, who has been indicted for dishonesty in administering the affairs of that province, is trying to escape justice by denying the jurisdiction of the courts. The stealing carried on in the building of La Plata during the administration of this man was something incredible, and his punishment for malfeasance in office will go far to redeem the very questionable character of Argentine politics.

## LOCAL NOTES

—Yellow fever has broken out in the Canaries.

—A train on the Santa Cruz line ran over a white man on the morning of the 14th, killing him instantly.

—A credit of £ 18,725 3s 4d has been authorized for the purchase of material in Europe for the water works.

—The government has opened a credit of £ 50,000 in London for the purchase of 60,000 tons of coal for the D. Pedro II railway.

—The recent heavy rains here have done much to cleanse our filthy streets, and for a time has allayed all fear of a water famine.

—We hear by telegraph that 1238 Ceará refugees are now on their way south, on two steamers. They must be provided with food and work.

—The São Paulo "preps" have followed the example of their Pernambuco brethren by jeering at a professor and breaking up the examinations.

—A new paper factory is now spoken of in this city. The duties are high enough, certainly, to make the fortune of a wide-awake manufacturer.

—On the 20th inst. three arrived here and at Santos 4,600 immigrants; but then Barão de Catagipe says Chinese must be sent for or the planters are ruined.

—A new "bbling" of grandees was published on the 20th; five barons, two grand cruises, a *comendador* and 6 officials comprise the lot. This settles the republic for a few days more.

—A quantity of counterfeit Florida water with Lamm & Kemp's labels attached, was seized on the 14th on board a coasting steamer bound for Pará. Is this a new case against Fritz, Mack & Co.?

—The sextum of the Imperial Chapel went to the Santa Anna theatre on the 20th—and he died there suddenly. Sextons have no business in theatres, and this case should serve as a warning to them.

—Three immigrants with Italian names were found strolling about Engenho Novo at half past two on the morning of the 14th. They were armed with a revolver and two knives, and were unable to explain why they were out so late.

—A quarrel between two earthen, resulting in a fight in Rua do Silva Manoel on the 11th, has ended in the death of one of them on the morning of the 10th from the injuries received. The murderer, Manoel Bento, is now wanted by the police.

—Deputy Luança de Albuquerque, speaking in the Chamber on the 15th, said that small money commands 2 to 3 per cent. premium in his province of Alagoas. There are millions in securing a cargo or two of bran new silver coins in Alagoas.

—A gentleman from Pará has recently been decorated with an Order of the Rose; his principal claim to the honor is said to be the stimulation of buttons in that province. We do not believe any such story, for the government would not decorate a citizen for this reason.

—It is pleasing to note that Dr. Ladislau Netto improved the very first opportunity to make a little speech at Berlin. The German savants will certainly be very much surprised at the facility with which Brazil's great scientists discuss every known question under the sun.

—There is one thing to be devoutly thankful for in connection with the catarrhal epidemic now afflicting the tramway mules of this city—they do not *h-a-i-c-k* and spit on the floor. The human animal, even in our first-class restaurants, often throws its own in a congestive diarrhoea.

—Recent advices received by *O País* and published on the 21st give the result of the presidential election as follows: For Harrison 116,734 votes; for Cleveland 108,238. But no explanation is given as for whom the remaining 11,700,000 voters in the United States cast their ballots.

—Visconde do Cruzeiro, better known as Conde de Teófilo Jr., gave a banquet on the 20th in honor of the passage of the national bank law. Similar to what occurred last May, it seems certain, now, that every one has just been pinning for the law, as it was evident they had been for abolition.

—The commission appointed to investigate the destination of moneys found on prisoners and sent by the police to the judge of absentees' court report that there should appear a sum of 8,221\$617, but only 2,608\$449 is accounted for. As the commission has the police on all hands, the inference is that some employee of the court has "antexed" this money. Will there ever be anything done to purify the courts in Rio?

—The Buenos Aires cricket club has challenged the Rio club to a game of cricket at Buenos Aires. The committee of the R. C. C., after a great deal of hard work, has finally arranged a very fair team to go down on the *Zimar* on the 17th prox. The committee has received much encouragement and assistance from the bank of commercial houses in granting the necessary leaves of absence so considerable a number of young men. Rio is not so strong in English houses as Buenos Aires and can not so easily spare a cricket team, especially in December. It is proposed to make this an annual game, this being one of the conditions of the eleven before starting. Next year, therefore, we shall have the pleasure of entertaining the Buenos Aires eleven.

—A gentleman of Pernambuco has been made Barão de Exu. Why not X Y Z at once and have done with it?

—A man was recently received at the Misericórdia hospital with a wound in his hand. He was buried as the 14th, the cause of death being typhoid-jamade. Yellow-fever, perhaps.

—A prisoner in jail here, charged with homicide and who was to appear before the jury, settled the case on the 15th by quiting this for a better world. Became tired of awaiting trial, perhaps.

—Our legislators are sublime. The Senate passed an amendment of Sr. Soares to prevent the destruction of the *maqueto*, but a day or two after it rejected this same amendment at the instigation of Senator Cândido de Oliveira. We wonder if this is a fair sample of Brazilian legislative coherency?

—We opine the *Journal* of the 16th is mistaken. The Dutch steamers to call here are not going to take Java coffee to the River Plate and load Rio coffee for Dutch markets; they will bring Java coffee to supply the imminent scarcity of coffee in our market and here load flour and dry goods to supply foreign consumers.

—The minister of agriculture has ordered the payment of £ 1,685 16s 3d to the North Brazilian Sugar Factories on account of guaranteed interest for the half year to June 30th last, discounting, however, the sum of 1,000\$ (£ 1212 5s) as a fine imposed on the S. Luança de Albuquerque, Pernambuco, for disobeying the orders of the fiscal.

—Grog shop-keepers at Iguaçu, province of Rio de Janeiro, know how to treat customers that have no money. In England and the United States the impecunious "drunkard" is served with duty water, but in Iguaçu the owners of shops throw heavy stones at their customers, and smash their feet so severely that the "had eggs" has a fortnight in bed.

—The errand of the *Journal* against vagabond dogs leads us to believe that some one on the staff of our contemporary reads the *News*. We have frequently pointed out the necessity of making Rio somewhat different from Constantinople, and with so little effect, that we heartily wish the chief editor of every local journal would get well bitten by the curs infesting our streets.

—On the afternoon of the 16th a colored gentleman met a lady of the same line on the Cães do Pharoas, and as the latter was clothed in apparel she had annexed in the gentleman's residence, he there and then, proceeded to recover his property and reduced the unfortunate lady to exceedingly light marching order; so light, indeed, that the police had to interfere. She had nothing left but a short jacket!

—Playing with matches cancel the death of a child and the destruction of two houses in this city on the 15th besides these losses some 80,000\$ money value of furniture, etc., was destroyed. The occurrence might serve as a proof of the flimsy structure of modern houses in Rio, built as they are in masonry, without fire walls and the divisions only one brick in thickness. Where one catches fire, the chances are the row will go down.

—On the evening of the 19th inst. seven Belgian immigrants complained to the police that they had been badly treated at Juiz de Fora, and had left the immigration establishment there upon the agent offering them free passages back to Rio. They proposed complaining to their consul, and it will be interesting to know whether charges made against the immigration agent at Juiz de Fora are baseless or not. These are not the first complaints against this agent.

—The Institute of Advocates in this capital proposes to discuss the theses, "Whether women graduates in law can exercise the profession of advocates, or occupy positions as magistrates." The recent graduation of three women in Pernambuco seems to have somewhat startled the ugly sex, who have considered advocacy their own peculiar province. A female administrative lawyer, or in American a "holtriss," would take the cake right out of the masculine "fly-traps," and this will not be tamely submitted to. We must add that if they are more dishonest and unworthy than the masculine lawyers, we shall oppose their admission to the bar.

—A young bride of six months, residing in Rua do General Palma, poured kerosene over herself on the 13th and then set fire to it, dying five hours after in great agony. It was at first said that jealousy of her husband was the cause of the suicide, but it has since transpired that her husband was very cruel to her, beating her every day and living away from home with a mistress. This model husband wears the name of Pereira de Oliveira, and if justice gets her due he will find answerable for this pitiful tragedy. It is full time that some restraint were put upon this common practice of running two establishments, to the neglect and shame of wife and children.

—A Spaniard named Dominguez is a grocery-keeper at No. 272 E. Rua do Senador Enselho. On the morning of the 21st his companion woke him up because of a noise at the street door. Dominguez took his revolver and went into the store to learn the cause of the noise, and there found that a gang of burglars were trying to break in. Waiting until they had pried the door open with a screw driver, he fired through the opening and killed one of the burglars on the spot. He then called the police and delivered himself up. If more cases of this kind were to happen, there would not be quite so much house-breaking as there is now. It is to be hoped the police will release Dominguez with a vote of thanks, but they are now trying to make him wish that he had permitted the thieves to have their own way.



|               |        |      |
|---------------|--------|------|
| Gallego.....  | 300    | "    |
| O'Dance ..... | 300    | "    |
|               | 200    | "    |
|               | 2,000  | "    |
|               | 26,648 | bals |

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Mediteranean Fr of <i>Cachar</i> .....  | 3,000 |
| do Ital str <i>Archimede</i> .....      | 1,000 |
| Cape Town } Nor by <i>Wenonah</i> ..... | 3,000 |
| Port Elizabeth }                        |       |
| Port Natal Nor bk <i>Gogla</i> .....    | 4,500 |

|                   |       |       |
|-------------------|-------|-------|
| Proreinales ..... | 1,000 | brls. |
| Haxall .....      | 500   | "     |
| Gallego .....     | 300   | "     |
| O'Dance .....     | 200   | "     |
|                   | 2,000 | "     |





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1888

| Date    | Steamer  | Destination   |
|---------|----------|---|
| Nov. 29 | Tamar... | Montevideo and Buenos Ayres.  |
| Dec. 4  | Neva.... | Southampton and Antwerp calling at<br>Bahia, Pernambuco, Lisboa and Vigo. |

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FINANCE, " Baker..... 26 Jan.

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